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TAGS: [KMDR](#) [OPRC](#) [OIIP](#) [XM](#) [XR](#) [XF](#) [BR](#)

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: WESTERN HEMISPHERE: VENEZUELA, CHAVEZ,  
RE-ELECTION REFERENDUM, FOREIGN RELATIONS, BOLIVIA; COLOMBIA,  
ARGENTINA, ECUADOR, PARAGUAY, GOVERNANCE; SAO PAULO

Title- Elections and populist temptations

Op-Ed in liberal Folha de S.Paulo (1/27) by Eliane Catanhede says:  
"[on Sunday] Secretary-General of the Ibero-American Secretariat  
[and former Inter-American Development Bank President] Enrique  
Iglesias warned Latin American journalists that there will be 14  
elections for presidencies in the next three years in the region  
[Latin America]. And...elections motivate populist temptations.  
Populism with public money is always worrisome, but can have  
dramatic consequences if combined with an economic crisis....Talking  
and analyzing is easy, even more when you are distant. What is  
tough is for leaders to convince themselves and resist [the  
temptation]. Especially if their own terms are at risk".

Title- Sensible measures to avert crisis

Editorial in business oriented Valor Econtmico (1/27) states:  
"Central Banks and specialists from all over the world have not  
found an answer strong enough to tackle the worst financial crisis  
since 1930 but have made considerable progresses in the diagnosis of  
its causes and measures required to avert them in the future....The  
most sensible and broad suggestions to close the breach of the  
current system of regulation and make it more inclusive came from  
the Group of 30 [that include Timothy Geithner, Lawrence Summers and  
Paul Volcker]....It is unlikely that major changes in regulation are  
made in the short run in the midst of such a serious financial  
crisis. Anyway, there was significant progress made in the  
diagnosis and in the way of creating an efficient surveillance and  
protection network that hinders new catastrophes. They [measures]  
should be put in place at the first opportunity."

Title- Brazil and Obama's U.S.

Op-Ed in center-right O Estado de S. Paulo (1/27) by former  
Brazilian Ambassador to the U.S. Rubens Barbosa says: "...The first  
challenge [in the relation between Brazil and the U.S.] will be to  
connect the interests between the two sides....The second relates to  
the gradual change in the perception the U.S. has about Brazil so  
far....[the country] starts to be seen in Washington as having  
global economic weight and as having a crucial role in some of the  
most important themes on the international agenda....the third is to  
know what Brazil wants from its relation with the U.S."

Title- Reestablishing Bolivia

Editorial in center-right O Estado de S. Paulo (1/27)  
states:"....The new constitution has everything to cause the  
exacerbation of ethnic and regional divisions [in Bolivia], with the  
radicalization of historical tensions between indigenous and white  
people.....Bolivia will [probably] know even more 'interesting'  
times than at present, as the Chinese ironically say."

White